

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 HEW-06 LAB-04 DIWY-01 PA-02
AID-05 OES-06 EB-08 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-07
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7499

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DEPARTMENT FOR IO/IWP AND AID/OCAB, OES/PC

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO HEW AND LABOR

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OCON SHUM ESCAP NP

SUBJ: UN REGIONAL SEMINAR ON PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN

IN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT:

KATHMANDU, FEBRUARY 15-22

1. SUMMARY: EIGHT-DAY UN REGIONAL SEMINAR OF WOMEN CONCLUDED BY RECOMMENDING NUMBER OF MEASURES BASED ON WORLD PLAN OF ACTION ADOPTED AT 1976 MEXICO CITY MEETING. SEMINAR RESOLUTIONS INCLUDED CALL FOR GOVERNMENT TO INTEGRATE WOMEN'S NEEDS INTO DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, TO ASSURE WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN POLITICAL LIFE, AND TO ADPOT LEGISLATION ASSURING WOMEN FULL OPPORTUNITIES IN ALLOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES. END SUMMARY.

2. FINAL SEMINAR REPORT ADDRESSED MEASURE TO BE TAKEN AT NATIONAL LEVEL TO RAISE STATS OF WOMEN. RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDED CALL ON PLANNERS AND POLICY MAKERS TO INTEGRATE WOMEN'S NEEDS INTO NATIONAL DEVELOPMTN PLANS TO ENSURE FULL
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AND EQUITABLE ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES. SEPARATE NATIONAL PLANS FOR WOMEN, BASED ON WORLD PLAN OF ACTION AND REGIONAL PLAN FOR ASIA AND PACIFIC, AHOULD BE DEVELOPED. SPECIAL MEASURES, INCLUDING QUOTAS, SHOULD BE TAKEN TO ENSURE WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION ATALL LEVELXS OF GOVERNMENT. FORMULATION AND EVALUATION OF NATIONAL PLANS SHOULD INCLUDE AN ASESSMENT OF THEIR SPECIFIC IMPACT ON WOMEN.

3. SEMINAR CALLED ON PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS TO ESTABLISH MACHINERY SUCH AS WOMEN'S BUREAUS OR NATIONAL COMMISSIONS WITH ADEQUATE RESOURCES TO ASSURE THAT PLANNING FOR WOMEN'S NEEDS IS IMPLEMENTED. STATISTICAL DATA ON WOMEN SHOULD BE COLLECTED AND MADE AVAILABLE TO NATIONAL PLANNING BOARDS. SEMINAR EMPHASIZED NEED FOR WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS TO BE ESTABLISHED AT VILLAGE LEVEL IF THEY ARE TO BECOME EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENTS OF CHANGE. SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND TRAINING COURSES SHOULD BE DEVELOPED TO EDUCATE WOMEN IN GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES WITH EMPHASIS ON FORMULATION OF SPECIFIC PROGRAMS AND BUDGETS FOR WOMEN. MASSIVE INFORMATION DRIVES WERE NECESSARY, ESPECIALLY IN RURAL AREAS, TO EDUCATE WOMEN ON RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO THEM. SEMINAR DEMANDED THAT WOMEN HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACILITIES IN AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND OTHER NON-TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES RELEVANT TO DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. BASIC HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES, INCLUDING CHILD CARE, SHOULD BE AVAILABLE TO ALL WOMEN. IT CALLED UPON ESCAP TO INCLUDE IN ITS TRAINING COURSE MATERIAL WHICH WOULD ASSIST IN MAKING PLANNERS AND POLICY MAKERS MORE SENSITIVE TO THE NEEDS OF WOMEN AND THEIR INTEGRATION IN DEVELOPMENT.

4. ON ISSUES AFFECTING NATIONAL MECHANISMS AND REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO CARRY OUT PROGRAMS SEMINAR URGED ESTABLISHMENT OF A WOMEN'S UNIT WITHIN ESCAP TO ASSURE WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN ALL ASPECTS OF ESCAP WORK. SEMINAR ASKED UNDP TO PROVIDE MORE FUNDS FOR TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR WOMEN ACTIVE IN WOMEN'S

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ACTIVITIES AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. SPECIAL ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO ENSURE THAT THE DESIRED IMPACT ON CHANGING TRADITIONAL ATTITUDES ON WOMEN'S ROLE IS ACHIEVED.

3. THE SEMINAR REVIEWED THE PROJECT DOCUMENT ON A FIVE-YEAR ACTION PROGRAM ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT. RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE DOCUMENT INCLUDED STRENGTHENING OF NATIONAL BUREAUS ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WOMEN'S SECRETARIAT TO SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS. THE SEMINAR AGREED THAT THE REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION AS PRESENTLY DRAFTED DID NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PARTICULAR NEEDS OF WOMEN IN THE REGION. THE SEMINAR RECOMMENDED THAT TEAMS SENT OUT TO STUDY RURAL DEVELOPMENT SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERTS ON WOMEN'S NEEDS AND INTERESTS AND THAT THE RESOURCES OF SPECIALISED UN AGENCIES BE UTILIZED FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE SEMINAR WELCOMED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASIA AND PACIFIC CENTER OF WOMEN IN TEHRAN, WHICH IT RECOMMENDED SHOULD SERVE AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF OTHER DEVELOP-

MENT INSTITUTIONS IN THE REGION.

6 ACCORDING TO MEMBERS OF U.S. DELEGATION CONFERENCE WAS
MARKED BY ATMOSPHERE OF COOPERATION AND CORDIALITY AMONG ALL
NATIONAL DELEGATIONS. NO POLITICAL ISSUES WERE RAISED AND
POLEMICS WHICH MARKED MEXICO CITY MEETING WERE COMPLETELY
ABSENT.
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Message Attributes

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